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7733 April 10, 1999
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Dr. Stephen Sundlof
FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine
7500 Standish Place
Rockville, MD 20855

Dear Dr. Sundlof:

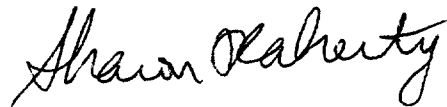
I am writing to ask the FDA to ban antibiotics used to promote growth in farm animals.

When animals are fed a nutritious diet and allowed to live in an environment that is healthy for them (not in overcrowded pens with no ventilation, for example), growth promoters are not needed. It is well known that bacteria grow resistant to antibiotics when these are overused. Some of the antibiotics used for growth promotion are also used in treating human illnesses. It is completely unacceptable to risk widespread untreatable illnesses in humans, by the routine use of antibiotics in the animals used as our food sources.

Sweden has banned all antibiotics in animal feed, and, last year, Europe voted to ban four growth promoting hormones that are also used in treating human illnesses.

Please follow the example of these responsible countries. Citizens of the United States deserve no less.

Sincerely,



Sharon Flaherty

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